Durga Hatkoti Mandir in Himachal Pradesh

4284. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any special plan for the development of tourism in Durga Hatkoti Mandir in Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh which is the most popular destination in India for tourists from different parts of the world;

(b) whether Government proposes to popularize Durga Hatkoti Mandir in different parts of the world; and

(c) whether Government will include the Mandir in World Tourism Map?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them under the Scheme, 'Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits'.

A project—Integrated Development of Rohru and Chanshal as a tourist destination was sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India in the year 2006-07 for a total amount of Rs. 260.00 lakh. One of the components of the project is development of Hatkoti for which Rs. 30.00 lakh was sanctioned.

Irrigation projects in Scheduled Tribe region

†4285. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether phase-II of Hasdeo-Bango mega project, Kosarteda medium project, small irrigation projects of Scheduled Tribe region and annicut projects of DPAP region, have been sanctioned;

(b) whether work on providing assistance for these projects has begun; and

(c) if not, the time frame to provide assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Hasdeo Bango Phase-IV project was posed by the Government of Chhattisgarh for inclusion in Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 2007-08 for which grant amounting to Rs. 19.67 crore was released during 2007-08 and grant of Rs. 29.51 crore is released on 10th April 2008. Kosarteda project is ongoing project under AIBP and grant amounting to Rs. 9.38 crore has been released to the project during 2007-08.

A total of 31 (19+12) new Surface Water Minor Irrigation Schemes (29 of tribal area and 2 of DPAP area) were included in AIBP during 2007-08 and for these schemes, grant amounting to Rs. 17.58 crore is released during 2007-08. For 12 schemes of above 31 schemes, grant amounting to Rs. 4.61 crore is released on 10th April 2008. In addition to above, 46 anicuts of the State (5 of DPAP area and 41 of tribal area) has also been included in AIBP and grant amounting to Rs. 11.38 crore during 2007-08 and Rs. 17.07 crore on 10th April, 2008 has been released.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.